

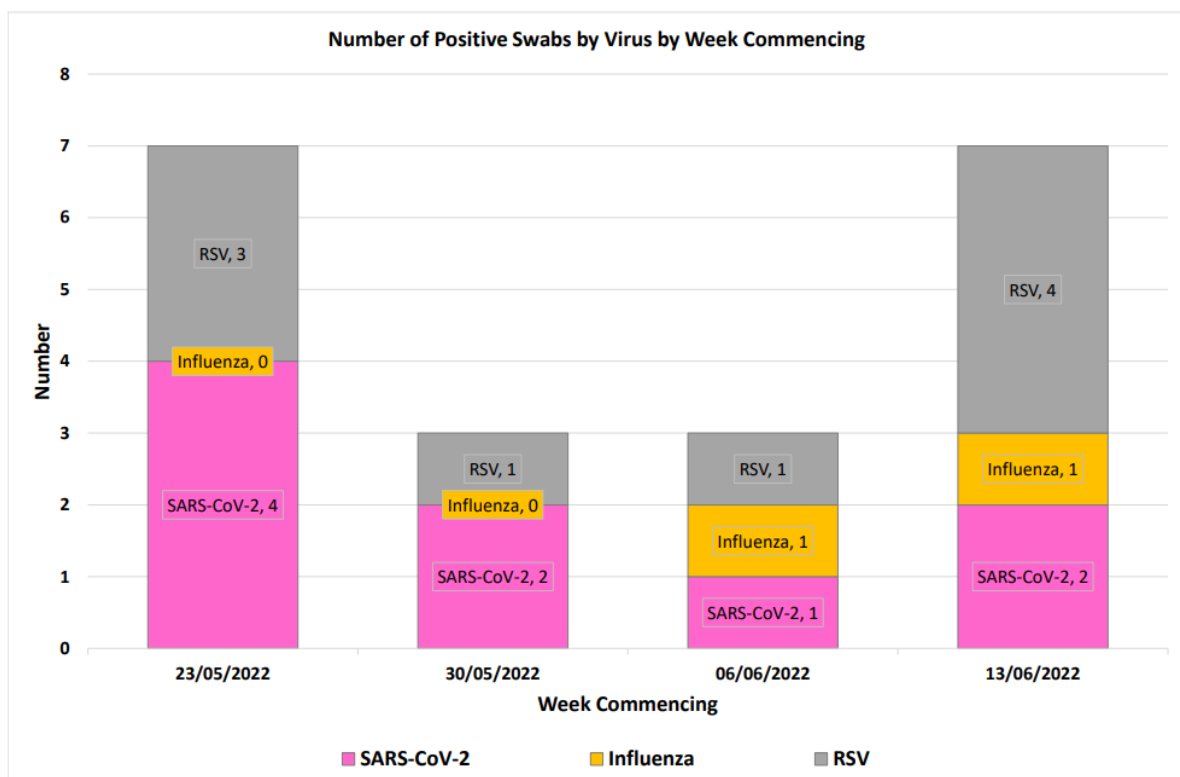


*Your weekly sampling news from our GP colleagues, Dr Debabish Kar,  
Dr Nick Thomas & Dr Will Elson on behalf of the Oxford RCGP RSC*

# SAMPLING IS INFORMING

## Your Samples How your data contributed recently

### VIROLOGY

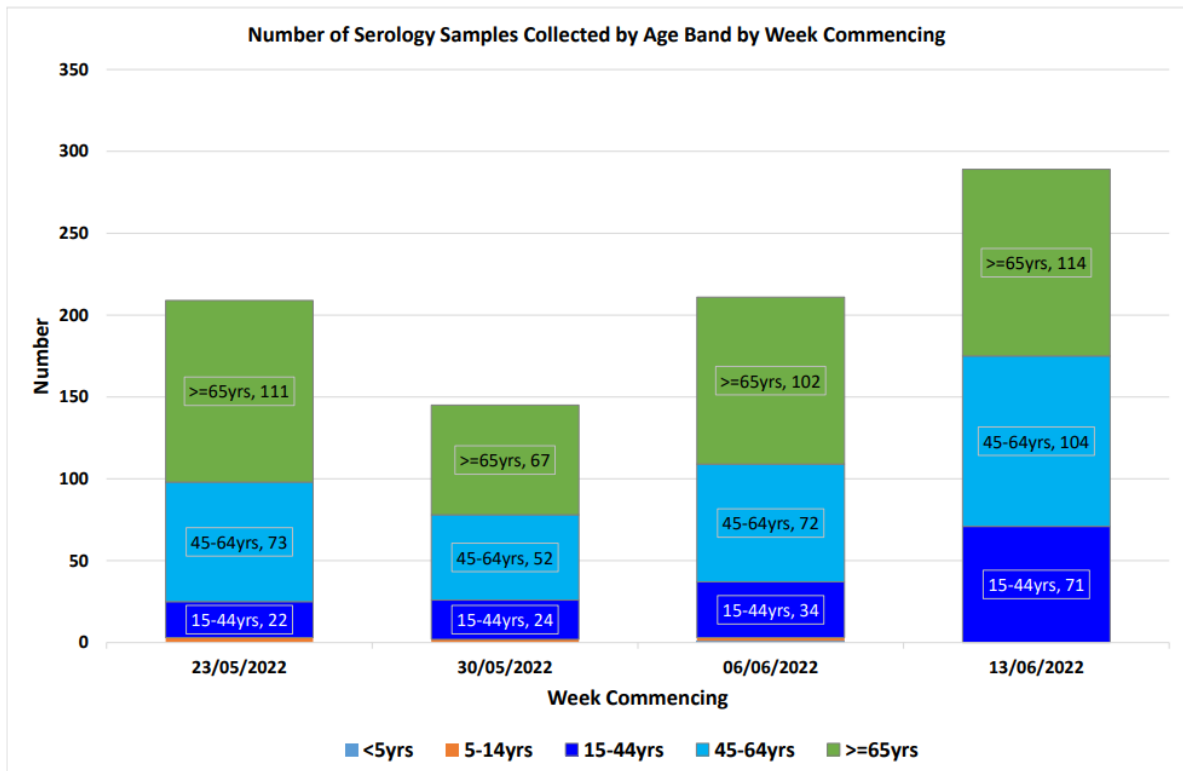


Thank you for continuing to provide samples from your patients - your contribution makes a difference.

The number of positive swabs collected in 4 weeks from w/c 23rd May 2022 suggests that the RSV and SARS-CoV-2 are the major respiratory infections prevalent in the community.

In the week commencing on 13th June 2022, out of 7 positive swabs, 4 were positive for RSV, 1 for influenza, and 2 for SARS-CoV-2 and the number of positive swabs has increased again last week.

## SEROLOGY



The number of serology samples collected in the last 5 weeks from 23rd May 2022 to 13th June 2022 suggests that serology sample collection has increased for all age bands.

In the week commencing on 13th June 2022, out of 289 serology samples, 114 were for >=65yrs, 104 for 45-64yrs, and 71 for 15-44yrs. Please do continue to collect serology samples from younger age bands.

This serology and virology information will guide the UKHSA to decide the immunization programme for the coming months. We appreciate your contribution and would like to encourage you to collect more samples.

## Tuesday's Top Tips

**"Monthly ordering of kits helps to keep the momentum of sampling."**

Here's a couple of things to keep in mind when you consider how to boost your sample numbers!

- Practices can contact the PLO Team and order materials, including sample kits, posters and leaflets for patients.
- You can also arrange a call with us via Zoom or Teams where we can offer guidance and support to your team.

# We'd Love to Visit Your Practice

## Meet Alice!

Alice joined us in March last year and has already brought a lot to the table with her ability to help us understand the sampling trends of our member practices and how this ties in with their sample kit requests.

She's also led the team on our PPI interaction with some of our members involved in studies.

We asked her what she's learned from talking to GPs about their needs and concerns when it comes to sampling for the network.



*"We've heard from lots of GPs that they struggle to find the time to swab patients during an appointment. If you haven't tried the TakeATest at home swabs yet, maybe give it a go."*

*"All you need to do is provide the patient with a voucher code (the same as your practice code) and code that a swab has been offered in the patient record."*

*"The patient can do the rest! We've found that this works particularly well for working-age patients who often don't have time to visit the practice in person."*

Alice or one of her PLO Team members can visit you at your practice. Book an appointment with us using the button below. We're always willing to meet our members in person!